(c) whether Government have also studied about the possibilities of expansion and development of food processing industries in Bihar; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d) Since the Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information in regard to the State-wise number of all food processing industries is not maintained centrally. However, as per available information, the number of some selected food industries in Bihar is as follows:—

Fruit and vegetable processing units	40
Sweetened aerated water units	12
Rice Mills including hullers	4372
Roller flour mills	58

While no State specific assessment of investment required for encouraging food processing industries have been made by this Ministry, under its Plan Schemes, financial assistance is provided to State Government Organisations/Academic Bodies for conducting studies to assess the potential investment required etc. for development of food processing industries in various States/regions. One such proposal for assistance received from Bihar in this regard has been recently approved. The Ministry seeks to encourage investments in the areas of fruit and vegetable processing, meat, poultry and egg processing, fish processing etc. and for this purpose, many developmental Plan Schemes have been formulated for implementation during the Eighth Five-Year Plan. The financial assistance extended under various schemes in respect of proposals received from Bihar is given in th enclosed Statement.

Statement

S. No.	Scheme under which assistance has been given	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Research and development project on goat, meat processing.	5.00
2.	Establishement of spawn laboratory for mushroom production.	4.65
3.	Setting up of food processing and training centres.	9.00
4.	Conducting study for assessing production availability and marketability surplus of fruit and vegetable and scope for promoting fruit and vegetable processing industries in Bihar.	3.00

Amendments in Charter Policy relating to deep-sea fishing with foreign collaboration

1641. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PORCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make any amendments in the Charter Policy relating to deep-sea fishing with foreign collaboration; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the terms of the amended policy and the technology required to this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Licence to farmers to make rice out of Paddy

1642. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the conditions for the farmers to get licence to make rice out of their paddy;

(b) what are the conditions for the rice-sellers to make rice from paddy;

(c) whether Government are aware of recent strike by rice-sellers of Punjab;

(d) if so, the impact of the strike on